

Remarks

The Office Action mailed June 2, 2005 has been reviewed and the following remarks have been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 6-9 and 25 are now pending in this application. Claims 6-9 are withdrawn from consideration. Claim 6 has been amended. No new matter has been added.

Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement. Claims 6-9 as filed in the parent application were independent and distinct from Claims 1-5 and 10-24 of the parent application, i.e., Application with serial number 09/682,863. As a result, a restriction requirement was imposed in the parent application between a group including Claims 1-5 and 10-24 and a group including Claims 6-9, and the divisional application was filed with Claims 6-9. No substantive deletions have been made to Claim 6-9 in the divisional application and Claim 25 was newly added the amendment mailed March 11, 2005. Therefore, Claims 25 is and Claims 6-9 were and still are independent and distinct from Claims 1-5 and 10-24 of the parent application.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 6-9, as amended, are directed to an invention that is independent and distinct from the invention that was the subject of the parent application. Specifically, Claims 6-9, at the time of filing the divisional application, included recitations that were, and still are independent and distinct from the recitations of Claims 1-5 and 10-24 of the parent application. As a result, a restriction requirement between a group including Claims 1-5 and 10-24 and a group including Claims 6-9 was imposed. MPEP §201.06 states “[A] later application for an independent and distinct invention, carved out of a pending application and disclosing and claiming only subject matter disclosed in the earlier or parent application, is known as a divisional application or "division." A divisional application is often filed as a result of a restriction requirement made by the examiner.” In other words, the divisional application, by definition, includes claims that are independent and distinct from the parent application. Accordingly, Claims 6-

9, at the time of filing the divisional application, included recitations independent and distinct from Claims 1-5 and 10-24 of the parent application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendment does not delete any substantive recitations present in Claims 6-9 at the time of filing the divisional application and added the new dependent Claim 25. Applicant further respectfully submits that if the amendment does not delete any substantive recitations present in Claims 6-9 at the time of filing the divisional application, Claims 6-9 and 25, after the amendment, are still independent and distinct from Claims 1-5 and 10-24 as originally filed in the parent application. As an example, if the parent application includes recitations designated as A and B, and the divisional application includes recitations designated as C and D, the amendment added a portion of B without deleting C or D. C, D, and at least a portion of B are still independent and distinct from A and B because the divisional application still includes C and D after the amendment.

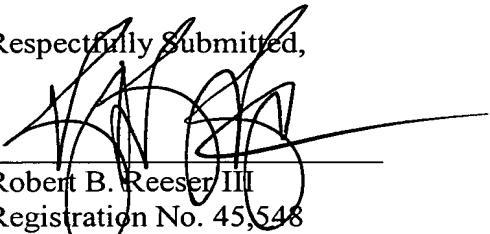
As another example, if “a buffered field effect transistor logic (BFL) stage comprising a first NMOS depletion mode field effect transistor (FET) having a first gate and an associated first channel, a second NMOS depletion mode FET having a second gate and an associated second channel, and a voltage drop circuit electrically connected in series between said first channel and said second channel” as recited in Claim 6 at the time of filing the divisional application is independent and distinct from the recitations of Claims 1-5 and 10-25 of the parent application and the amendment added “wherein said first output is coupled to a chopping circuit configured to chop a signal based on a signal received at said first output” to Claim 6, Claim 6 is still independent and distinct from the recitations of Claims 1-5 and 10-24 because no substantive deletion is made to “a buffered field effect transistor logic (BFL) stage comprising a first NMOS depletion mode field effect transistor (FET) having a first gate and an associated first channel, a second NMOS depletion mode FET having a second gate and an associated second channel, and a voltage drop circuit electrically connected in series between said first channel and said second channel” filed in the divisional application.

As yet another example, if “a buffered field effect transistor logic (BFL) stage responsive to said inverted output, said BFL stage comprising a first NMOS depletion

mode field effect transistor (FET) having a first gate and an associated first channel, a second NMOS depletion mode FET having a second gate and an associated second channel; and a resistor electrically connected in series between said first channel and said second channel” as recited in Claim 8 at the time of filing the divisional application is independent and distinct from the recitations of Claims 1-5 and 10-25 of the parent application and the amendment added “wherein said first output is coupled to a chopping circuit configured to chop a signal based on a signal received at said first output” to Claim 8, Claim 8 is still independent and distinct from the recitations of Claims 1-5 and 10-24 because no substantive deletion is made to “a buffered field effect transistor logic (BFL) stage responsive to said inverted output, said BFL stage comprising a first NMOS depletion mode field effect transistor (FET) having a first gate and an associated first channel, a second NMOS depletion mode FET having a second gate and an associated second channel; and a resistor electrically connected in series between said first channel and said second channel” filed in the divisional application. Accordingly, Claims 6-9 and 25 are still independent and distinct from Claims 1-5 and 10-24 of the parent application. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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